



# Training Manual

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# CONTENTS

## **RULES AND DEALING PROCEDURES**

<i>Three Card Poker</i> Table .....	1
Overview of the Rules .....	2
Dealing Procedures .....	4
Irregularities in Dealing Procedures .....	5
Exceptions.....	6



## Overview of the Rules

### Introduction

Three Card Poker uses a standard 52-card deck. There are three ways to play. The game allows the player to wager against the dealer, to wager only on the value of his own hand, or to wager both against the dealer and on the value of his own hand. Note: Exceptions are listed at page 7.

### Ranking of Hands

The ranking of the hands in Three Card Poker differs from traditional poker hands. In Three Card Poker, a STRAIGHT beats a FLUSH. Cards are ranked from highest to lowest as follows.

STRAIGHT FLUSH  
THREE OF A KIND  
STRAIGHT  
FLUSH  
PAIR

If a hand does not contain a pair or better, the hand that contains the highest ranking card(s) wins. Ace is high except in 3-2-Ace sequence.

### Three Ways To Play

#### *1. Playing Against the Dealer - ANTE WAGER*

The object when playing against the dealer is to get a three card poker hand with a value higher than the dealer's qualifying hand of a Queen or better. Players place an ANTE wager. After looking at their three card poker hand, players may fold or, if they believe their hand is high enough to beat the dealer's hand, they will place an amount EQUAL to the ANTE on the PLAY spot.

#### **Playing Against the Dealer**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| • <b>Player folds</b>  | <b>LOSE</b>  |
| • <b>When dealer does not play</b>                               | <b>PLAY is a PUSH</b><br><b>ANTE wins 1 to 1</b>   |
| • <b>When dealer plays and player's hand beats dealer's hand</b> | <b>PLAY wins 1 to 1</b><br><b>ANTE wins 1 to 1</b> |
| • <b>When dealer plays and dealer's hand beats player's hand</b> | <b>PLAY is a loss</b><br><b>ANTE is a loss</b>     |

The ANTE BONUS is paid when a player is dealt one of the three highest ranking hands in the game. **The ANTE BONUS is paid regardless of the dealer's hand.** The ANTE BONUS payouts are attached.

(2) ***Playing the Hand Value - PAIR PLUS***

The object of betting the PAIR PLUS wager is to receive a pair or better. If the player's hand contains a pair or better the player wins the PAIR PLUS wager. **Players receive PAIR PLUS payouts regardless of the dealer's hand.** PAIR PLUS payouts are attached.

(3) ***Playing Both - PAIR PLUS and ANTE***

When a player bets both the PAIR PLUS and the ANTE (including PLAY), he is playing against two separate paytables with two different criteria for payouts. In playing the ANTE wager, the object is to get a three-card poker hand that beats the dealer's qualifying hand of Queen or better. In playing the PAIR PLUS wager, the object is to receive a pair or better. **The ANTE and PAIR PLUS wagers do not have to be the same amount. Players receive the PAIR PLUS payouts regardless of the dealer's hand.** Players can wager anywhere from the table minimum to the maximum allowed bet on either spot. However, the PLAY wager must always equal the ANTE wager.

If the player has made the ANTE wager and the PAIR PLUS wager, he must make the PLAY wager or will forfeit both the ANTE and PAIR PLUS wagers.

**Side bets between players are prohibited.**

## Dealing Procedures

Dealing procedures vary by jurisdiction. Please refer to the appropriate gaming agency for regulations specific to your jurisdiction. It is recommended that Three Card Poker be dealt with an automatic card shuffler, such as Shuffle Master's BG-2, BG-3 or ACE®.

1. Each player makes a wager as indicated below, according to posted table limits:
  - To play against the dealer by placing an ANTE wager on the ANTE spot.
  - To play the hand value against the payable by placing a PAIR PLUS wager on the PAIR PLUS spot.
  - To play against the dealer and the payable by placing the ANTE wager on the ANTE spot and a PAIR PLUS wager on the PAIR PLUS spot.
  - At the casino's discretion, a player may place wagers at two adjacent betting positions during a round of play.
2. The dealer shall announce "No more bets" prior to the dealer dispensing any stacks of cards. Verbally acknowledge those players who have not made the PAIR PLUS wager. (Example: "No PAIR PLUS, position 2, 3 and 5.")
3. Each player and the dealer receive three cards face down. Cards are delivered face down to the player from the dealer's left to right in rotation. To enhance game security, do not expose the bottom card.
4. After examining his or her cards, the player has the option to either make a PLAY wager in the amount EQUAL to the player's ANTE wager, or forfeit the ANTE wager by folding. If a player has placed an ANTE wager and a PAIR PLUS wager but does not make a PLAY wager, the player forfeits both the ANTE wager and the PAIR PLUS wager.
5. After each player has either placed a PLAY wager on the PLAY spot or folded, the dealer collects all forfeited wagers and cards.
6. The dealer will arrange his hand from highest card value to the lowest, and announce, "Dealer doesn't play" or "Dealer plays with a Queen."
7. The dealer will then reconcile the hands of those players who have not folded. Starting with the player on the dealer's right, bring the player's hand into the "work area" between the dealer's hand and the PAIR PLUS wager and reveal the player's cards. The dealer will pay and/or take from the back forwards, reconciling the PLAY wager first, the ANTE BONUS second, the ANTE wager third and the PAIR PLUS wager last. The dealer will lay and pay, or pick and pay, depending on casino procedures.

## Irregularities in Dealing Procedures

1. Incorrect number of cards in player's/dealer's hand.

If any player or the dealer is dealt an incorrect number of cards, all hands are void and the cards reshuffled.

2. Card shuffler malfunction.

1. Refer to the trouble shooting guide on the back of the shuffler, or;

2. If the shuffler has continually malfunctioned, replace it as follows:

1. Turn off the shuffler.
2. Unplug the power cord.
3. Replace the shuffler with the backup shuffler.
4. Plug in the power cord and the data cable.
5. Turn the shuffler on.
6. CALL SHUFFLE MASTER to service the shuffler.
7. Resume play.

OR

3. Follow specific procedures approved by your local regulatory body.



## Exceptions

In many jurisdictions, the ANTE wager is mandatory. (For Example, Louisiana and certain California casinos.)

In these cases, the player must make the ANTE wager to play against the dealer's hand, and may make the PAIR PLUS wager to bet on the outcome of his or her hand against a posted PAIR PLUS pay table.

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Game protected by U.S. Patent Nos.  
5,485,241, 5,257,916 and 5,565,522 additional patents pending.  
Layout Manufactured by: TCS

Pair Plus Pays	
Pair	1 to 1
Flush	3 to 1
Straight	6 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	30 to 1
Straight Flush	40 to 1

Ante Bonus Pays	
Straight	7 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	4 to 1
Straight Flush	5 to 1

**Play MUST EQUAL Ante**  
DEALER PLAYS WITH  
QUEEN HIGH OR BETTER  
WHEN DEALER DOES NOT PLAY  
Play... PUSH • Ante... 1 to 1  
WHEN DEALER PLAYS  
Play... 1 to 1 • Ante... 1 to 1

Pair Plus Pays	
Pair	1 to 1
Flush	3 to 1
Straight	6 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	30 to 1
Straight Flush	40 to 1

Ante Bonus Pays	
Straight	7 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	4 to 1
Straight Flush	5 to 1

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3-of-a-Kind	30 to 1
Straight Flush	40 to 1

Ante Bonus Pays	
Straight	7 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	4 to 1
Straight Flush	5 to 1

Pair Plus Pays	
Pair	1 to 1
Flush	3 to 1
Straight	6 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	30 to 1
Straight Flush	40 to 1

Ante Bonus Pays	
Straight	7 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	4 to 1
Straight Flush	5 to 1

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DEALER PLAYS WITH  
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WHEN DEALER PLAYS  
Play... 1 to 1 • Ante... 1 to 1

Pair Plus Pays	
Pair	1 to 1
Flush	3 to 1
Straight	6 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	30 to 1
Straight Flush	40 to 1

Ante Bonus Pays	
Straight	7 to 1
3-of-a-Kind	4 to 1
Straight Flush	5 to 1

**Play MUST EQUAL Ante**  
DEALER PLAYS WITH  
QUEEN HIGH OR BETTER  
WHEN DEALER DOES NOT PLAY  
Play... PUSH • Ante... 1 to 1  
WHEN DEALER PLAYS  
Play... 1 to 1 • Ante... 1 to 1

# THREE CARD POKER®

# THE CARD PLAY

Pair  
Plus

Ante

Play

JUST EQUAL Ante

ER PLAYS WITH  
HIGH OR BETTER

ER DOES NOT PLAY  
H • Ante...1 to 1

Pair Plus Pa

Pair  
Flush  
Straight  
3-of-a-Kind  
Straight Flush

Ante Bonu

Straight

# three card poker



Three Card Poker® is an exciting stud poker game that offers three ways to play and four different ways to win. Players may bet against the dealer or bet on the value of their own three card hand **or** bet both. Bonus payouts may be had for certain hands when wagering against the dealer.

**THE GAME:** To play against the dealer the player places an ANTE wager. After looking at his three card hand the player may fold, or if he thinks his hand is high enough to beat the dealer, places an equal wager on the PLAY spot. If the player's hand beats the dealer's qualifying hand of a queen or better, he wins both wagers. If the dealer doesn't qualify, the player wins the ANTE wager and the PLAY wager is a push.

To play the hand value only and not against the dealer, the player places a wager on the PAIR PLUS spot. If his hand contains a pair or better, the player wins.

To play both, the player bets the ANTE and PAIR PLUS spots. The player must make a PLAY wager if he has placed the ANTE, or he forfeits the ANTE.

**FEATURES:**

- Easy to learn
- Quick-paced game
- Proven earner
- Casino advantage of 2.1% ANTE wager, and hit frequency of 47.14%
- Casino advantage of 2.3% to 7.3% PAIR PLUS wager, and hit frequency of 25.61%

Ranking of hands from highest to lowest: Straight Flush, Three-of-a-Kind, Straight, Flush and a Pair. If no hand contains a pair or better, the hand that contains the highest ranking card(s) wins. Ace is high except in 3-2 Ace sequence.

WHEN WAGERING AGAINST THE DEALER, THE FOLLOWING  
BONUSES WILL BE PAID:

#### ANTE BONUS PAYOUTS

STRAIGHT	1 TO 1
THREE-OF-A-KIND	4 TO 1
STRAIGHT FLUSH	5 TO 1

#### SAMPLE PAIR PLUS PAYTABLE

PAIR	1 TO 1
FLUSH	4 TO 1
STRAIGHT	6 TO 1
THREE-OF-A-KIND	30 TO 1
STRAIGHT FLUSH	40 TO 1

#### PLAYING AGAINST THE DEALER

PLAYER FOLDS	LOSE
DEALER DOES NOT QUALIFY	PLAYER IS A PUSH & ANTE WINS 1 TO 1
DEALER QUALIFIES & PLAYER'S	PLAY WINS 1 TO 1
HAND BEATS DEALER'S HAND & ANTE WINS	1 TO 1
TIE	PUSH

**Note:** In certain jurisdictions the ANTE wager may be required.



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**Three Card Poker**  
Paytable Summary

Paytable Designator	TCP-01		TCP-02		TCP-03		TCP-04	
Description	A/A		A/B		B/A		B/B	
	Ante A	Pair Plus A	Ante A	Pair Plus B	Ante B	Pair Plus A	Ante B	Pair Plus B
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	5	40	5	40	5	40	5	40
Three of a Kind	4	30	4	25	3	30	3	25
Straight	1	6	1	6	1	6	1	6
Flush		4		4		4		4
Pair		1		1		1		1

Paytable Designator	TCP-05		TCP-06		TCP-07		TCP-08	
Description	C/A		C/B		A/C		B/C	
	Ante C	Pair Plus A	Ante C	Pair Plus B	Ante A	Pair Plus C	Ante B	Pair Plus C
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	4	40	4	40	5	40	5	40
Three of a Kind	3	30	3	25	4	30	3	30
Straight	1	6	1	6	1	5	1	5
Flush		4		4		4		4
Pair		1		1		1		1

**Three Card Poker**  
Paytable Summary

Paytable Designator Description	TCP-09		TCP-10		TCP-11		TCP-12	
	C/C		A/D		B/D		C/D	
	Ante C	Pair Plus C	Ante A	Pair Plus D	Ante B	Pair Plus D	Ante C	Pair Plus D
	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
<b>OUTCOME</b>								
Straight Flush	4	40	5	40	5	40	4	40
Three of a Kind	3	30	4	30	3	30	3	30
Straight	1	5	1	6	1	6	1	6
Flush		4		3		3		3
Pair		1		1		1		1

**Three Card Poker**  
Paytable Summary  
2/12/2004

Paytable Designator	TCP-01		TCP-02		TCP-03		TCP-04	
Description	A/A (original)		A/B		B/A		B/B	
	Ante A	Pair Plus A	Ante A	Pair Plus B	Ante B	Pair Plus A	Ante B	Pair Plus B
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	5	40	5	40	5	40	5	40
Three of a Kind	4	30	4	25	3	30	3	25
Straight	1	6	1	6	1	6	1	6
Flush		4		4		4		4
Pair		1		1		1		1

Paytable Designator	TCP-05		TCP-06		TCP-07		TCP-08	
Description	C/A		C/B		A/C		B/C	
	Ante C	Pair Plus A	Ante C	Pair Plus B	Ante A	Pair Plus C	Ante B	Pair Plus C
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	4	40	4	40	5	40	5	40
Three of a Kind	3	30	3	25	4	30	3	30
Straight	1	6	1	6	1	5	1	5
Flush		4		4		4		4
Pair		1		1		1		1

**Three Card Poker**  
Paytable Summary

Paytable Designator	TCP-09		TCP-10		TCP-11		TCP-12	
Description	C/C		A/D		B/D		C/D	
	Ante C	Pair Plus C	Ante A	Pair Plus D	Ante B	Pair Plus D	Ante C	Pair Plus D
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	4	40	5	40	5	40	4	40
Three of a Kind	3	30	4	30	3	30	3	30
Straight	1	5	1	6	1	6	1	6
Flush		4		3		3		3
Pair		1		1		1		1

Paytable Designator	TCP-13		TCP-14	
Description	D/E - New Jersey only		A/E - New Jersey only	
	Ante D	Pair Plus E	Ante A	Pair Plus E
OUTCOME	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable	Ante Bonus Paytable	Pair Plus Paytable
Straight Flush	6	35	5	35
Three of a Kind	5	33	4	33
Straight	1	6	1	6
Flush		4		4
Pair		1		1